

his wine is blood, that he accosts the rich
and tells them to be led by children.

A secret identity is suspected.

You are asked to be alert
for signs, magnetic
splinters and silver
pieces, said to bring luck.

The reward --
not offered, but hinted at.

-- Jim Kobylecky

Eugene OR

The Oregon Trip

1.

on the road between Tahoe
and Redding we lost our
direction and saw 46 deer
three coyotes, two bears and
one sign.

2.

there's a rest stop somewhere
on highway 44 that was full
of people when we stopped
for a drink of water. there
was a hand pump and we heard
them singing
as we left.

3.

highway 80 above Redding is
an erratic road that is
interesting to drive until
you reach the Oregon border
where it widens out.

4.

we did an errand for
a friend and got to meet

one hundred St. Bernards that
live in a kennel
on the other side
of an old bridge.

5.

we stopped for coffee and
ate two doughnuts that were
stale. Myrtle said the
doughnut man only came on
weekdays and this was
saturday

6.

local fellow asked where we
were from, we told him
San Francisco and he read
the newspaper stirring his
coffee with a fork

7.

a little bell rang as we
left and local fellow
and Myrtle shook their
heads and
laughed.

8.

Mary and I visited the
old farm (lost ten years ago)
the orchard was in blossom
and we have to go back
to Oakland Sunday.

-- Stephen Morse

Oakland CA

For Marti

I'm missing you
today, your small body
I was learning to trust
your black hair
tangled in everything
& good things you told me
that I carry like St. Christopher
on a silver chain.